Parameters for appointment of Governors

2625. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India in a recent judgment called upon all national parties that a national consensus is evolved laying down norms and parameters for appointment of Governors in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Government reaction thereto; and

(d) whether Government intends to evolve a procedure which may be acceptable to all and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (d) The Supreme Court of India, in its judgement in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 257 of 2005— Rameshwar Prasad and Ors. Vs. Union of India and Anr. with 3 other Writ Petitions referring to the Sarkaria Commission's recommendation regarding the appointment of the Governor has left this aspect to the wisdom of the political parties and their leaders to discuss and debate and arrive at, if possible, a national policy with some common minimum parameters applicable and acceptable to all major political parties.

In the Seventh Meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 16th November, 2001, detailed discussions were already held on the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission related to the "Role of the Governor", including "appointment of the Governor". The suggestions made by the Sarkaria Commission have been substantially accepted by the Inter-State Council and are already part of the exercise undertaken by the Government while considering the appointment of a Governor of any State.

Review of powers of Governors

2626. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review powers of the Governors;

(b) whether any constitutional amendments are under consideration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Prepaid taxi and autorickshaw booths at New Delhi Railway Station

2627. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether prepaid taxi and auto rickshaw booths at New Delhi Railway Station don't function after 10.00 p.m. with the policemen posted there helping drivers to overcharge the passengers, particularly elderly and ladies, to any extent, fare charts being unavailable;

(b) whether any check is exercised by senior police officers on staff posted there;

(c) if so, the number of cases detected during 2005 and so far during 2006 and action taken against delinquent police personnel; and

(d) if reply to part (b) is in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) Two pre-paid Three-seater Scooter Rickshaw (TSR) booths are in operation at New Delhi Railway Station. No taxies are plying under these pre-paid booths. No complaint regarding Traffic Police personnel helping taxi/TSR drivers in overcharging passengers, particularly elderly persons and ladies at New Delhi Railway Station has been received by Delhi Police during the year 2005 and up to 30th April, 2006. The action taken by Delhi Police for proper functioning of pre-paid TSR booths, traffic circulation and parking within the station premises and at Chemsford Road include the following:

(i) Posting of one Zonal Officer, two Head Constables, four Constables on ajmeri Gate side and two Zonal Officers, three Head Constable and 10 Constables on Paharganj;

(ii) Frequent checking of traffic staff by Assistant Commissioner/ Inspector (Circle) of Traffic Unit;